

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Currently amended). An expression vector, comprising a DNA segment encoding a genomic growth hormone signal peptide with an intron ~~of a protein which is normally expressed and secreted by human cells~~, joined to a DNA segment encoding intracellular IL-1 receptor antagonist type II (icIL-1ra-II) and operably linked to a promoter sequence, wherein said icIL-1ra-II is expressed from said promoter sequence and translated with said signal peptide fused in frame to icIL-1ra-II to produce an icIL-1ra-II where the amino acid sequence at the N-terminus is SEQ ID NO:11.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

3 (Previously presented). An isolated host cell line transformed with the expression vector of claim 1.

Claim 4 (Cancelled).

5 (Previously presented). An isolated host cell line in accordance with claim 3, wherein said cell is an endogenous cell of a human host.

Claim 6 (Cancelled).

7 (Previously presented). A method for producing a recombinant icIL-1ra-II comprising the steps of:

culturing a host cell line according to claim 3 to express and produce a recombinant glycosylated icIL-1ra-II;
recovering the produced recombinant glycosylated icIL-1ra-II.

Claim 8 (Cancelled).

9 (Currently amended). [[A]] An isolated glycosylated icIL-1ra-II producible by a method according to claim 7.

10 (Original). The glycosylated icIL-1ra-II according to claim 9 having an apparent molecular weight of about 27 kDa on SDS-PAGE under reducing conditions with 15% acrylamide.

11 (Original). The glycosylated icIL-1ra-II according to claim 9 having an apparent molecular weight of about 30 kDa on SDS-PAGE under reducing conditions with 15% acrylamide.

12 (Original). A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the glycosylated icIL-1ra-II according to claim 9 in a therapeutically effective amount and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

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13 (Withdrawn). A method for reducing the amount of IL-1 in a patient having a condition associated with overexpression of IL-1, comprising administering the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 to a patient in need thereof.

14 (Withdrawn). A method for reducing the amount of IL-1 at a desired site in a human patient, comprising introducing a vector in accordance with claim 3 into appropriate endogenous human cells at the desired site to produce transformed cells which will express icIL-1ra-II at the desired site.

Claim 15 (Cancelled).

16 (Currently amended). [[Glycosylated]] An isolated glycosylated icIL-1ra-II.